



Call to Commission Original Performance Art

ANNAPOLIS CHARTER 300

Throughout 2008, the City of Annapolis will celebrate a most significant anniversary – 300 years of our City Charter through the Annapolis Charter 300 Program. In 1708 Queen Anne of Great Britain gave Annapolis its City Charter, establishing a lasting representative government for some and marking the beginning of the struggle for full voting rights and emancipation for others. Each of the three centuries since has been filled with stories of real people struggling for freedoms of our America.

This charter had significance far beyond the borders of our small city. It was the first lasting democratic representative process in Maryland and the southern colonies of Great Britain, where officials were all appointed by royal governors or other colonial officials. The election of our first city council, consisting of a Mayor and Aldermen, has been unbroken down to the present day – from Amos Garrett to Ellen Moyer.

It was also significant in that the charter laid bare a reality of the 18th century colonial world; that some people were neither free nor enfranchised. This 1708 date marked the beginning of the struggle for voting rights for women and people of color through the 20th century. In the ensuing 300 years, many seminal events, such as the Supreme Court case in 1908 that struck down the “grandfather clause” that allowed citizens the right to vote only if his grandfather could vote, were triggered by events and actions in Annapolis. These local actions and conditions were reflective of the course of these liberties in our nation at large. Decisions made here have been instrumental in determining the outcome of these key democratic principals. The role of interracial civic relationships, perseverance, and determination for justice within the City is a key component to this story.

Annapolis Charter 300 will be a citywide, yearlong celebration of our community's progress -- showcasing a broad array of historical perspectives, celebratory and commemorative events for residents and visitors from across the region. Event producers include our strong non-profit arts organizations, historic sites and museums, institutions and individuals. It will also offer a perspective for citizen examination of how local citizens and businesses can address current civic concerns and progress towards true representative government and public history. Public Art will play a key role in this civic commemoration.

The City of Annapolis Art in Public Places Commission wishes to commission original performance art reflecting the struggles for independence, personal freedom and voting rights for all citizens over the past 300 years, to be performed during 2008. Performing artists and or arts organizations should submit proposals for the creation of original works that include but are not limited to theatre, dance, music, film, writing, video, voice and other visual art public performance media.

Eligibility

Individuals 18 years and older and arts organizations located within the State of Maryland may apply. Eligible organizations include arts organizations, performing art presenters, or other community-based groups that present programs open to the public, *and will not receive additional grants, funds, or other monetary awards from the City of Annapolis during Fiscal Year 06-07.*

Selection Process and Criteria

The Art in Public Places Commission will review all applications and notify applicants of its decision, which is final. The Commission shall consider the

- originality of the artistic concept and creative vision
- enduring nature of the artistic statement,
- appropriateness of the work to the Annapolis Charter 300 themes,
- feasibility of actual public performance in 2008
- the scope of the applicant's previous projects and experience
- feasibility of the budget
- ability of the applicant to carry out the proposed activities

After an application has been received, a Commissioner or Commission Staff may call for additional information. Decisions are made on the completeness of the application and subsequent presentations. The Commission reserves the right to consider any additional factors in any phase of the grant process that may merit retraction of a promised grant award, and may solicit additional applicants if it considers such an action to be warranted.

Project Budget

Grant requests may not exceed \$30,000. The total project amount, including all creative expenses of any kind, should be included with the scope of work proposed. The full budget must demonstrate that there are sufficient funds in addition to this grant to complete the creation of this original presentation.

What this Commission of Performance Art Grant may be used for

This grant is designated for the development of original work which reflects the themes of Annapolis Charter 300 and which will be premiered during 2008. The final product must be a finished and performable script, score, song, choreographed dance, screenplay or other created piece, with a performance plan accompanying it. The performance plan must provide a proposed public forum for the performance; handicapped accessibility of the public forum, and proposed budget costs for supplies, actors, and all staging.

Grant funding may include historical research and oral histories when the fruits of such narratives are used in the final creation of performance art. No production costs are included in this round, but may be offered in the FY 2008 grant cycle.

What Grant may not be used for

This Grant may not be used to purchase permanent equipment, to make permanent improvements in buildings or other facilities, conferences, in-school student activities, to supplement or pay for any share of administrative costs, including salaries of administrative personnel, or for any other non-creative expenses.

Deadlines and Important Dates*

Phase 1 May 26, 2006 Concept proposals due
Phase 2 June 26, 2006 Proposals selected for presentations to Commission
Phase 3 July 17-19, 2006 Presentations to Commission
Phase 4 August 31st Notification of Selected Artist/Organization

* Art in Public Places Commission reserves the right to alter time line as needed.

- Applicants must submit original and twelve (12) copies including all attachments.
- Applications must be received by the Commission by May 26.
- The Commission is not responsible for postal delays or mishandling. Faxed applications will not be accepted.

Please Mail Submission Packets to:

Art in Public Places Commission, City Hall
c/o Karen Engelke
160 Duke of Gloucester St.
Annapolis, MD 21401

For further information, questions, or assistance in preparing your application, contact Sigrid Trumpy, at hollace@crosslink.net

For further information regarding Annapolis Charter 300, please contact Karen Engelke at AC300@annapolis.gov